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TIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 9, 2004.

Thomas A. Runk, Reg. No. 30,679

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Inventor: Leinsing et al.

Application No.: 09/998,383

Filed: November 29, 2001

For: NEEDLE FREE MEDICAL

CONNECTOR WITH EXPANDED VALVE MECHANISM AND

METHOD OF FLUID FLOW CONTROL

Examiner: E. Keasel

Group Art Unit: 3754

Docket No. 56075

Date: April 9, 2004

RECEIVED

APR 2 0 2004 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated February 10, 2004. Please amend and reconsider the above-referenced application.

Amendments to the claims start on page 2.

Remarks start on page 13.